

Kindly cancel Claims 1-19. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

IN THE CLAIMS

20. (Original) A mechanism for securing a removable battery to a power tool, comprising:

a battery receiving portion including at least one upright member and flange forming a guide channel for receiving a corresponding rail included on a removable battery;
and

a closure member slidably mounted to the battery receiving portion said closure member being configured to obtain a locked position and a released position, said closure member including a generally angled surface directed toward a received removable battery during connection of the battery to the power tool,

wherein the angled surface of the closure member, when in a locked position, is disposed within guide channel such that contact by the rail included on a received battery automatically forces the closure member into a released position.

21. (New) The mechanism of claim 20, further comprising means for biasing the closure member into the locked position.

22. (New) The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the closure member is formed with a push-button directed towards the exterior of the power tool.

23. (New) The mechanism of claim 20, wherein depressing the push-button inwards toward the battery receiving portion disposes the closure member in the released position.

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24. (New) The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the received battery rail includes a chamfered leading edge of an upright member forming the rail.
25. ((New) The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the battery receiving portion is configured to support the power tool when no battery is connected.
26. (New) The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the locked position and the released position are generally transverse to the at least one channel guide.
27. ^{New}~~(Original)~~ A mechanism for securing a removable battery to a power tool, comprising:
a battery receiving portion including at least one upright member and flange forming a guide channel for receiving a corresponding rail included on a removable battery;
and
a closure member slidably mounted to the battery receiving portion said closure member being configured to obtain a locked position and a released position, said released position being orientated transversely to the guide channel;
wherein the closure member automatically secures the received battery upon insertion.
28. (New) The mechanism of claim 27, further comprising means for biasing the closure member into the locked position.
29. ((New) The mechanism of claim 27, wherein the closure member is formed with a push-button directed towards the exterior of the power tool.
30. (New) The mechanism of claim 29, wherein depressing the push-button inwards toward the battery receiving portion disposes the closure member in the released position.

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31. (New) The mechanism of claim 27, wherein the received battery rail includes a chamfered leading edge of an upright member forming the rail.
32. (New) The mechanism of claim 27, wherein the battery receiving portion is configured to support the power tool when no battery is connected.
33. ^{New}
~~(Original)~~ A cordless power tool, comprising:
a battery receiving portion including at least one upright member and flange forming a guide channel for receiving a corresponding rail included on a removable battery, said battery receiving portion formed integrally with the power tool; and
a closure mechanism disposed adjacent to the battery receiving portion, said closure member including:
a push button disposed transverse to the guide channel, said push button for disposing the closure member into at least one of a locked position and a released position; and
a chamfered locking surface for locking a received battery,
wherein the angular surface of the chamfered locking surface is directed toward a received battery during connection of the battery to the power tool such that the closure member automatically secures the received battery upon insertion.
34. (New) The power tool of claim 33, wherein the chamfered locking surface is disposed in the at least one guide channel.
35. (New) The power tool of claim 33, further comprising means for biasing the closure member into the locked position.

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36. (New) The power tool of claim 33, wherein depressing the push-button inwards toward the battery receiving portion disposes the closure member in the released position.
37. (New) The power tool of claim 33, wherein the received battery rail includes a chamfered leading edge of an upright member forming the rail.
38. (New) The power tool of claim 33, wherein the battery receiving portion is configured to support the power tool when no battery is connected.
39. (New) The power tool of claim 33, wherein the locked position and the released position are generally transverse to the at least one channel guide.

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